

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) An outsole of an athletic boot comprising:

an outsole body having a toe region and a heel region;

a frame member secured to said outsole body; and

at least one a pair of adjustment ~~member~~ members adjustably mounted on said frame member at either said toe region or said heel region of said outsole body, a portion of ~~which is~~ each adjustment member being adapted for engagement with a binding, said adjustment ~~members member~~ being extendable in a selected amount away from said frame member.

2. (Currently amended) The ~~interface adjustment mechanism~~ outsole of Claim 1, wherein each of said adjustment ~~member~~ members further includes an engagement portion and a threaded portion.

3. (Currently amended) The ~~interface adjustment mechanism~~ outsole of Claim 2, wherein said engagement portion is made from a elastomeric material.

4. (Currently amended) The ~~interface adjustment mechanism~~ outsole of Claim 2, wherein said engagement portion has an engagement surface, said engagement surface including apertures that are engageable with a driver tool for rotary adjustment.

5. (Currently amended) The ~~interface adjustment mechanism~~ outsole of Claim 1, further comprising fore and aft holding members coupled to said frame member, said ~~at least one~~ adjustment ~~member~~ members adjustably mounted on either of said holding members.

6. (Currently amended) The ~~interface adjustment mechanism~~ outsole of Claim 5, wherein said either of said fore and aft holding members further includes a pair of base ~~member~~ members each having a threaded aperture, and wherein each of said adjustment ~~member~~ members further includes an engagement portion and a threaded portion, said threaded portion of

said adjustment ~~member~~ members threadably engaged with said threaded ~~aperture~~ apertures of said base ~~member~~ members.

~~7.~~ (Currently amended) The ~~interface adjustment mechanism~~ outsole of Claim 1, further comprising a plurality of adjustment members associated with said toe and heel regions, and wherein said frame member includes a plurality of base members, one of said plurality of adjustment members adjustably coupled to each base member.

~~8.~~ (Currently amended) The ~~interface adjustment mechanism~~ outsole of Claim 1, wherein said adjustment ~~member~~ members being extendable orthogonally from said ~~frame member~~ toe region/or said heel region of said outsole body in a selected amount.

Cl ~~9.~~ (Currently amended) The ~~interface adjustment mechanism~~ outsole of Claim 1, further comprising fore and aft cleats, said fore and aft cleats removably coupled to said frame member.

~~10.~~ (Currently amended) An outsole of an athletic boot selectively mountable to a binding comprising:

a frame member disposed within said outsole and having first and second ends;

\* at least one base member coupled to either of said first ~~[[and]]~~ or second ends of said frame member;

at least one spacer having a binding contact surface adapted to contact the binding, said spacer adjustably mounted to said base member for selective orthogonal adjustment relative to said frame member; and

at least one binding attachment member coupled to said outsole.

~~11.~~ (Currently amended) The ~~interface adjustment mechanism~~ outsole of Claim 10, further comprising first and second spacer holding members removably coupled to said first and

second ends of said frame members, respectively, said at least one base member coupled to either of said first and second spacer holding members.

12. (Currently amended) ~~A snowboard boot~~ An athletic shoe selectively mountable to a binding comprising:

an upper attached to an outsole;

a base member embedded within said outsole and having a threaded portion opening out of said outsole;

an adjustment member having an engagement portion and a threaded portion threadably engaged with said threaded portion of said base member, said adjustment member being threadably adjustable relative to said base member so that said engagement portion of said adjustment member projects a selective amount away from said base member; and

at least one binding attachment member coupled to said outsole.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously presented) An athletic boot selectively mountable to a binding comprising:

an upper fixedly secured to an outsole;

an interface adjustment mechanism for adjusting the interface between said boot and the binding, said interface adjustment mechanism disposed within said outsole and having at least one adjustment member, said adjustment member being extendable in a selected amount away from said outsole; and

at least one binding attachment member coupled to said outsole.

15. (Original) The boot of Claim 14, wherein said outsole having a bottom surface, and wherein said adjustment member being extendable in a selected amount away from said bottom surface of said outsole.

16. (Original) The boot of Claim 14, wherein said interface adjustment mechanism further includes a base member, said adjustment member adjustably coupled to said base member.

17. (Original) The boot of Claim 16, wherein said adjustment member further includes an engagement portion and a threaded portion.

18. (Original) The boot of Claim 17, wherein said interface adjustment mechanism further includes a frame member, said base member coupled to said frame member and having a threaded aperture, said threaded portion of said adjustment member threadably engaged with said threaded aperture of said base member.

C1 19. (Original) The boot of Claim 17, wherein said engagement portion has an engagement surface, said engagement surface including apertures that are engageable with a driver tool for rotary adjustment.

20. (Original) The boot of Claim 18, further comprising fore and aft cleats, said fore and aft cleats removably coupled to said frame member.

21. (Original) The boot of Claim 14, wherein said interface adjustment mechanism further comprises a plurality of adjustment members and a plurality of base members, one of said plurality of adjustment members adjustably coupled to each base member.

22. (Previously presented) A snowboard boot having toe and heel ends, said boot selectively mountable to a binding, comprising:

an outsole having a bottom surface;

an elongated frame disposed within said outsole, said frame extending between about said toe end and about said heel end of said boot;

at least one base member mounted to said frame; and

at least one adjustment member adjustably mounted on said base member for selective substantially orthogonal adjustment relative to said outsole.

23. (Previously presented) The snowboard boot of Claim 22, wherein said base member defines a first threaded surface, and said adjustment member includes an engagement portion adapted for engagement with the binding and a second threaded surface threadably engageable with said first threaded surface of said base member.

24. (Previously presented) The snowboard boot of Claim 22, wherein said adjustment member is adjustably mounted on said base member for selective substantially orthogonal adjustment relative to said bottom surface of said outsole.

25. (Canceled)

26. (Previously presented) The snowboard boot of Claim 22, wherein said outsole defines at least one adjustment member mounting aperture opening to said bottom surface, said base member mounted within said adjustment member mounting aperture.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Previously presented) The snowboard boot of Claim 22, further comprising fore and aft cleats, said fore and aft cleats removably coupled to said frame.

29. (Previously presented) The snowboard boot of Claim 22, further comprising a plurality of adjustment members and a plurality of base members, one of said plurality of adjustment members adjustably coupled to each base member.

30. (Previously presented) A snowboard boot selectively mountable to a binding comprising:

an outsole having a bottom surface;

a frame member coupled to said outsole and having first and second ends;

first and second spacer holding members coupled to said first and second ends of said frame members, respectively; and

at least one interface adjustment assembly associated with either of said first or second spacer holding members, said interface adjustment assembly including a base member fixedly secured to either of said first or second spacer holding members and having a threaded aperture, and a spacer having an engagement portion and a threaded portion threadably engaged with said threaded aperture of said base member, said spacer being threadably adjustable relative to said base member so that said engagement portion of said spacer projects a selective amount away from said outsole.

CI 31. (Original) The snowboard boot of Claim 30, wherein said engagement portion of said spacer is made from a elastomeric material.

32. (Original) The snowboard boot of Claim 30, wherein said base member of said interface adjustment assembly is directly coupled to either of said first and second spacer holding members.

33. (Original) The snowboard boot of Claim 30, further comprising first and second cleats, said first and second cleats removably coupled to said first and second ends of said frame member, respectively.

34. (Original) The snowboard boot of Claim 30, wherein said spacer being threadably adjustable relative to said base member so that said engagement portion of said spacer projects a selective amount away from said bottom surface of said outsole.

35. (Previously presented) An athletic boot in combination with a binding to which the boot may be selectively coupled in a fixed disposition, comprising:

a binding having a boot interface surface and at least one boot attachment member;

a boot having an outsole;

at least one interface adjustment member selectively securable to said outsole of said boot and having a binding interface surface that contacts the boot interface surface of said binding when said boot is coupled to said binding, said interface adjustment member being extendable in a selected amount away from said outsole of said boot; and

at least one binding attachment member coupled to said outsole, said binding attachment member configured to cooperatively attach to said boot attachment member in a releasable manner.

36. (Previously presented) An athletic boot in combination with a binding to which the boot may be selectively coupled in a fixed disposition, comprising:

a binding having a boot interface surface;

a boot having an outsole; and

a plurality of interface adjustment members selectively securable to said outsole of said boot, each adjustment member having a binding contact portion and a binding interface surface that contacts the boot interface surface of said binding when said boot is coupled to said binding, said contact portion defining a thickness;

wherein said plurality of interface adjustment members are configured to having different predetermined contact portion thicknesses, said plurality of interface adjustment members being interchangeable to selectively adjust the degree of extension of said interface surface away from said outsole of said boot.

37. (New) An outsole of an athletic boot comprising:

a frame member; and

at least one adjustment member adjustably mounted on said frame member, a portion of which is adapted for engagement with a binding, wherein said adjustment member further

includes an engagement portion made from an elastomeric material and a threaded portion, said adjustment member being extendible in a selected amount away from said frame member.

167 38. (New) An outsole of an athletic boot comprising:

a frame member; and

at least one adjustment member adjustably mounted on said frame member, a portion of which is adapted for engagement with a binding, said adjustment member further including an engagement portion and a threaded portion, wherein said engagement portion has an engagement surface, said engagement surface including apertures that are engageable with a driver tool for rotary adjustment, said adjustment member being extendible in a selected amount away from said frame member.

CI 39. (New) An outsole of an athletic boot comprising:

a frame member;

fore and aft holding members coupled to said frame member; and

at least one adjustment member adjustably mounted to either said fore or said aft holding member, a portion of said adjustment member being adapted for engagement with a binding, said adjustment member being extendible in a selected amount away from said frame member;

wherein either of said fore or aft holding member further includes a base member having a threaded aperture, and wherein said adjustment member further includes an engagement portion and a threaded portion, said threaded portion of said adjustment member threadably engaged with said threaded aperture of said base member.

40. (New) An outsole of an athletic boot comprising:

a frame member;

fore and aft cleats removably coupled to said frame member; and



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at least one adjustment member adjustably mounted on said frame member, a portion of which is adapted for engagement with a binding, said adjustment member being extendible in a selected amount away from said frame member.

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